

tax as a stable revenue source for state and local governments; and

Whereas, The following federal legislation has been introduced in the United States Congress to grant states the authority to require all sellers, regardless of nexus, to collect those states' sales and use taxes:

(1) The Main Street Fairness Act of 2011 (S. 1452 sponsored by Senators Richard Durbin, Daniel Akaka, Daniel Inouye, Tim Johnson, Jack Reed, and Sheldon Whitehouse; and H.R. 2701 sponsored by Representatives John Conyers, Jr., Michael Capuano, Jesse Jackson, Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr., Heath Shuler, Adam Smith, and Peter Welch);

(2) The Marketplace Fairness Act of 2011 (S. 1832 sponsored by Senators Michael Enzi, Lamar Alexander, Roy Blunt, John Boozman, Bob Corker, Richard Durbin, Tim Johnson, Mark Pryor, Jack Reed, and Sheldon Whitehouse); and

(3) The Marketplace Equity Act of 2011 (H.R. 3179 sponsored by Steve Womack, Michael Capuano, Judy Chu, Eric A. "Rick" Crawford, Theodore E. Deutch, Mario Diaz-Balart, John J. Duncan Jr., Renee L. Ellmers, Gene Green, Carolyn B. Maloney, Betty McCollum, Brad Miller, Kristi L. Noem, Ted Poe, Dennis Ross, Heath Shuler, Jackie Speier, and Peter Welch); and

Whereas, It is estimated that Washington would realize up to \$170.3 million in state and local taxes in the 2011-2013 biennium, and \$483.0 million in state and local taxes in the 2013-2015 biennium, if it had the ability to require remote sellers to collect our state's sales and use taxes; and

Whereas, Since 1999, state legislators, governors, local elected officials, state tax administrators, and representatives of the private sector have worked to develop a Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Collection System for the 21st century; and

Whereas, On November 12, 2002, state delegates unanimously ratified the Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Agreement, which substantially simplifies state and local sales tax systems, removes the burdens to interstate commerce that were of concern to the Supreme Court, protects state sovereignty, and is consistent with the introduced federal legislation; and

Whereas, The Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Agreement provides the states with a blueprint to create a simplified and more uniform sales and use tax collection system that when implemented, allows justification for Congress to overturn the *Bellas Hess* and *Quill* decisions; and

Whereas, Washington State enacted legislation in 2007 to bring this state's sales and use tax statutes into compliance with the Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Agreement; and

Whereas, By November 30, 2011, 24 states: Arkansas, Georgia, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming, representing over 40 percent of the total population of the United States enacted legislation to bring their state's sales and use tax statutes into compliance with the Agreement; and

Whereas, Over 1,700 businesses have voluntarily registered under the Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Agreement to collect and remit sales and use taxes; and

Whereas, The legislature of Washington and our colleagues in the other states have shown the resolve to acknowledge the complexities of the current sales and use tax collection system, have worked with the business community to formulate a truly simplified and streamlined collection system, and have shown the political will to enact

the necessary changes to make the streamlined collection system the law; and

Whereas, Until Congress and the President enact federal legislation, participation by remote sellers is only voluntary and thus states are unlikely to close the revenue gap between what is owed on remote transactions and what is collected; and

Whereas, Governors and state legislatures have made the difficult choices to reduce spending and where necessary to raise revenue during the recent "great" recession to close the \$417 billion cumulative budget gaps; and

Whereas, After closing \$417 billion in budget gaps for fiscal years 2009-2011, the estimated budget shortfall for states in fiscal year 2012 will be \$82 billion and for fiscal year 2013 will be \$67 billion; and

Whereas, Federal legislation would provide fiscal relief for the states by enabling collections of taxes that are already due;

Now, therefore, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that: The members of our congressional delegation join as cosponsors of the introduced federal legislation and support the Act's swift adoption by the Congress of the United States; and that President Barack Obama sign the legislation, upon its passage by Congress. Be it

Resolved, That copies of this Memorial be immediately transmitted to the Honorable Barack Obama, President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the State of Washington.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. LEAHY, from the Committee on the Judiciary, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1408. A bill to require Federal agencies, and persons engaged in interstate commerce, in possession of data containing sensitive personally identifiable information, to disclose any breach of such information.

By Mrs. BOXER, from the Committee on Environment and Public Works, with amendments:

S. 1813. A bill to reauthorize Federal-aid highway and highway safety construction programs, and for other purposes.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. CASEY:

S. 2070. A bill to promote the domestic development and deployment of natural gas and clean energy technologies; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WICKER (for himself and Mr. PRYOR):

S. 2071. A bill to grant the Secretary of the Interior permanent authority to authorize States to issue electronic duck stamps, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. FRANKEN (for himself and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 2072. A bill to discourage disincentives to the housing missions of government sponsored enterprises and require consistent putback risks at the enterprises to assist homeowners; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself and Mr. BEGICH):

S. 2073. A bill to prohibit the permanent relocation of F-16 aircraft assigned to Elison Air Force Base; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself and Ms. SNOWE):

S. 2074. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand the rehabilitation credit, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. NELSON of Florida (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. KERRY, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. COONS, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CORKER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. LUGAR, and Mr. NELSON of Nebraska):

S. Res. 368. A resolution recognizing the anniversary of the tragic earthquake in Haiti on January 12, 2010, honoring those who lost their lives in that earthquake, and expressing continued solidarity with the people of Haiti; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 165

At the request of Mr. VITTER, the names of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) and the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 165, a bill to amend the Public Health Services Act to prohibit certain abortion-related discrimination in governmental activities.

S. 402

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 402, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for the award of a military service medal to members of the Armed Forces who served honorably during the Cold War, and for other purposes.

S. 412

At the request of Mr. LEVIN, the names of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) and the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON) were added as cosponsors of S. 412, a bill to ensure that amounts credited to the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund are used for harbor maintenance.

S. 807

At the request of Mr. ENZI, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 807, a bill to authorize the Department of Labor's voluntary protection program and to expand the program to include more small businesses.

S. 973

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) were added as cosponsors of S. 973, a bill to create the National Endowment for the Oceans to promote the protection and conservation of the United States